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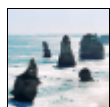
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About this Release

Statistics Victoria is a quarterly newsletter primarily targetted to Victorian state and local government users providing information about new developments, recent statistical releases, seminars, training and reviews.

New national electronic product to replace Statistics Victoria after July 2011

*** This product has been cancelled ***

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LANEWAYS

A MESSAGE FROM THE VICTORIAN REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Welcome to the final edition of the Statistics Victoria Newsletter. You may have also noticed the latest State and Regional Indicators, Victoria (cat. no. 1367.2), released in February 2011, was that publication's final issue.

A new State and Territory Statistical Indicators (cat. no. 1367.0) publication is currently being developed for release in July 2011, and is intended to replace both Victoria's indicator publication and newsletter. The new product will make it easier to locate comparable data, events, training courses and information seminars across the jurisdictions, while at the same time highlighting state indicators and statistical news. Content will also be more timely than at present, with on-going rolling updates improving on the previous quarterly cycle. Key indicators will be presented graphically, along with some descriptive and explanatory comments, and the occasional feature article. I look forward to this new product increasing our ability to inform and engage with the broader statistical community and in short, you the reader.

The 2011 Census is almost here (9 August 2011) and the ABS Census Management Unit in Victoria are going full steam ahead with all the necessary preparation. With the increase in household internet facilities, the ABS is encouraging people to fill in their Census forms online using the eCensus. One feature of eCensus is that census forms are able to be resumed allowing respondents to save partially completed Census forms, and return to complete them later. Another important feature of eCensus is the first-rate security used to protect the privacy of all personal information collected. It provides strong protection against malicious attacks from the internet, as well as data encryption to ensure that only authorised ABS officers can view respondent data. It is anticipated that over one-third of the Australian public will use the eCensus to complete their 2011 Census form.

I would also like to take this opportunity to briefly mention a few of the exciting events and initiatives the ABS has been involved in over the last few months, and to thank all those involved in making them a success. Firstly, the ABS Stats Show (April 2011), highlighted the range of ABS services and products available to the Victorian State Government (VSG), including the ABS Resource page. The ABS Resource page is part of the VPS intranet and has direct links to resources on the ABS website, such as the Understanding Statistics Portal, Statistical Training Courses, the Geography Portal and the National Statistical

Services website. Secondly, over the last month a series of information sessions have been held in Melbourne to promote, and continue the ongoing broader communication around, the new Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) and its implementation, beginning July 2011, across ABS statistical programs.

You'll find more information about various ABS activities in Victoria including those noted above, as well as recent ABS releases, as you browse through this issue of the Statistics Victoria newsletter.

I'd like to take this final opportunity to thank you all for ongoing interest in, and support of, the ABS.

Lane Masterton
Regional Director



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MAKE SURE YOU'RE COUNTED - CENSUS 2011

The next Census of Population and Housing is just around the corner and while you may

remember the last Census, you may be unaware of the reasons why it is such an important national activity.

The data collected will clarify Australians understanding of society both at a local community level and as a nation in coming years. Each level of government also uses the data to plan, administer and review infrastructure and services we use every day; from hospitals and schools to public transport and roads.

To ensure the Census takes an accurate snapshot of Australia on 9 August, the Australian Bureau of Statistics will take measures to improve the count, including: indigenous, regional, homeless, Gen Y and traveller enumeration strategies, ethnic engagement for people of non-English speaking backgrounds and making eCensus accessible to all.

For more information on the Census go to: www.abs.gov.au/census or call 1300 338 776.

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NEW GEOGRAPHY

As many of you know, the ABS is introducing a new geography classification system, the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS). From 1 July 2011 the ABS will progressively implement the ASGS for use in the collection and dissemination of geographically classified statistics. While some similarities remain between the ASGS and the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) it replaces, the two frameworks are fundamentally distinct and have considerable differences between their respective regions, both in their geographical extent and conceptual foundation.

Most ABS collections will be reporting on ASGS regions by 2012, with Building Approvals to be the first ABS data released on the ASGS in August 2011. The ASGS will be replacing the ASGC as the main geographical framework for the 2011 Census of Population and Housing. Under the ASGS, Census Collection Districts will no longer exist. Instead the ASGS is built up from small area geographies called Mesh Blocks, which aggregate to Statistical Area Level 1s (SA1s) - the smallest region upon which 2011 Census data will be released.

The ASGS separates the geographic regions defined by the ABS from other administrative boundaries, such as Local Government Areas, which are not defined by the ABS. Under the ASGS, data will continue to be output for Local Government Areas.

The ABS will publish selected statistics concurrently on both ASGC and ASGS geographies for a short period and some older data will be converted to ASGS regions to create a time series. Detailed information on individual collections will be released on the ABS website through individual information papers. The ABS geography portal will provide a summary of this information along with links to the ASGS publications, fact sheets on ASGS regions and correspondence files for converting data.

To help our clients understand the new geography a series of information sessions were held in Melbourne early June 2011. The largest of these sessions (pictured below) was held on the 2nd June at the Spring Street Theatre and was attended by over 170 clients from Federal, State and Local Government, as well as many private industry organisations.



For more information on the ASGS please visit the ABS Geography portal at www.abs.gov.au/geography. If you have any further questions about the ASGS or how the changes may impact your own data operations, please email geography@abs.gov.au.

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INTRODUCTION OF NEW GEOGRAPHY IN THE BUILDING APPROVALS DATA

The April 2011 issue of the Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no. 8731.0) publication, released on 31 May 2011, included a feature article highlighting the implementation of the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) in ABS building approvals collection, outlining the data items that will be available post-ASGS implementation.

The key points of the article are:

- Building Approvals will be released on ASGS boundaries from the July 2011 issue onwards, scheduled for release on 30 August 2011.
- Building Approvals will also continue to be released on the current ASGC boundaries in the 2011–12 financial year, after which point it will no longer be produced on an ASGC basis.
- Geographic correspondences will be available for users who wish to construct longer series using the ASGS.
- Under the ASGS, Building Approvals data will be published at the Australia, State/Territory, Greater Capital City Statistical Area, Local Government Area (LGA) and Statistical Area Level 2 (SA2) levels.

For further information about the implementation of the ASGS in the Building Approvals collection or changes to outputs please telephone the Building Approvals section on (08) 8237 7648.

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Topics @ a Glance - ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES

Recently the ABS showcased a proposed redesign of the Theme pages on BetaWorks. Feedback and support to the proposed design has been positive and as a result we have now changed to the new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Topics @ a Glance page layout. The changes are designed to make Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander information more visible and create a simpler and more positive experience for users of the

ABS web site.

The new Topics @ a Glance pages are in-line with the Framework for measuring Well-being: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples (cat. no. 4703.0). Basic data is available for each topic in an easy to use format, with doclinks to more detailed data and information.

New features of Topics @ a Glance are:

- New ABS publishing technology utilised
- More user friendly
- Better visuals
- Topics in-line with the Framework for Measuring Well being
- Basic data available for each topic on the Topic pages
- Updated terminology
- 'Just released' and 'soon to be released' publications showcased at the front page

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COMMUNITY INDICATORS UPDATE

The Australian Community Indicators Network (ACIN) aims to assist people using or developing community indicators to share ideas and information, and to foster collaboration. The ABS Victoria hosted an ACIN seminar in May 2011 with approximately 100 participants from local, state and federal government, university sectors and community groups across Australia attending via video conference.

A presentation from Associate Professor Meg Holden, on Best Practice and Emerging Principles in the Community Indicator Movement, provided an overview of new developments in the realm of community and urban indicators around the world. The seminar also provided an opportunity for participants to discuss work currently being undertaken in developing and using community indicators within Australia. A recording of this seminar and the presentation slides can now be accessed from the National Statistical Service (NSS) website.

The next ACIN seminar will be held in September.

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MEASURING AUSTRALIA'S PROGRESS WORKSHOP

The ABS Measures of Australia's Progress (MAP) publication is designed to help Australians address the question, 'Is life in Australia getting better?' by providing social, economic and environmental indicators to assess how our country is progressing. The ABS is currently undertaking public consultations to generate a national discussion about what matters to Australians in terms of national progress. The first consultation was held in Victoria in May 2011, with a wide range of discussions generated from participants on the key goals and aspirations that matter to Australians. This feedback will be used to develop a new framework for MAP, to not only ensure the ABS is collecting data that targets key issues, but to also make it easier to assess how Australia is progressing.

To find out more information about the consultation please visit the MAP blog at www.abs.gov.au/about/progress/blog.

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CONSULTATION - REVIEW OF COUNTING THE HOMELESS

The ABS has completed discussion forums in all capital cities on the Discussion Paper: Methodological Review of Counting the Homeless, 2006 (cat. no. 2050.0.55.001). This was part of a three month period of engagement on the initial findings in the review.

The consultation will be used to inform the final methodology for the ABS producing official estimates of homeless people based on Census data from 2001 onwards. The ABS will publish a response to the consultation and a clear statement of areas where further work will be required to provide official estimates. This will be published on 2 August.

The Census team and the homelessness services sector are working closely to ensure that people who are homeless are counted in the Census. The next Census, being held on 9 August 2011, includes everyone in Australia on Census night no matter where they are sleeping.

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RECENT RELEASES

The Recent Releases section provides a brief overview of selected publications released in the last quarter. Emphasis is on Victorian and lower level spatial data for those publications where it is available. We encourage you to follow the links to the relevant publications to find out more.

For a comprehensive list of ABS releases, including monthly and quarterly publications, please visit [Statistics by Release Date](#).

For a list of upcoming ABS releases, please visit [ABS Release Advice](#).

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CENSUS RELEASES

On this page:

Census Dictionary, 2011 (cat. no. 2901.0) - released 23/05/2011

The Census Dictionary is a comprehensive reference document for the Census of Population and Housing. The dictionary contains the details of the classifications used in the 2011 Census along with definitions of census concepts and terms.

Key Features of the Census Dictionary include:

- a full listing of all Census Dictionary classifications (variables);
- a sortable classification index;
- a search facility to find classifications related to keywords;
- large classifications which are easy to read online; and
- links to Data Quality Statements (as they become available).

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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How Australia Takes a Census, 2011 (cat. no. 2903.0) - released 28/04/2011

The purpose of this publication is to outline how the 2011 Census will be conducted.

The Census of Population and Housing is the largest statistical collection undertaken by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and one of the most important. Its objective is to accurately measure the number and key characteristics of people in Australia on Census Night, and the dwellings in which they live. This information provides a reliable basis for the estimation of the population of each of the states, territories and local government areas, primarily for electoral purposes and the distribution of government funds. The Census also provides the characteristics of the Australian population and its housing within small geographic areas and for small population groups. This information supports the planning, administration, policy development and evaluation activities of governments and other users.

In 2011, around 43,000 collection staff will be employed. Collection is still mainly on foot, however some Census Collectors use motor vehicles and, in remote parts of Australia, even travel by helicopter. The Census will collect a range of information reflecting multicultural heritage, including language spoken at home, country of birth, ancestry and Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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 Microdata: Patient Experiences in Australia, Expanded CURF, Jul 2009 to Dec 2009
 Technical Manual: Patient Experiences in Australia, Expanded CURF, Jul 2009 to Dec 2009

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Wellbeing: A focus on children and youth, Apr 2011 (cat. no. 4725.0) - released 29/04/2011: **First Issue**

Data available at the following geographic levels: National, states, Indigenous regions, non-remote and remote

This publication provides information about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young.

In 2008, almost half (47%) of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth (aged 15 to 24) living in remote areas spoke an Indigenous language. This compares to 13% of *all* Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth who could speak an Indigenous language, which is down from 18% in 2002.

In contrast to this decrease in Indigenous language skills, 21% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children (aged 3 to 14) who did not speak an Indigenous language at home were learning one. About one in three (31%) children also spent time with an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander elder at least once a week.

In 2008, one-quarter (26%) of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth reported having experienced discrimination in the past 12 months because of their origins.

To find out more about Indigenous culture and heritage, as well as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' participation in leisure housing circumstances, and experiences of law and justice, please visit the publication.

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Apparent Consumption of Alcohol, Australia, 2009–10 (cat. no. 4307.0.55.001) - released 03/06/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National

This publication provides estimates of apparent consumption of alcohol based on the availability of alcoholic beverages in Australia. It provides estimates of the quantity of pure alcohol available for consumption from beer, wine, spirits, and Ready to Drink (pre-mixed) beverages (RTDs), plus estimates of the total volume of beer and wine available for consumption.

There were 186.1 million litres of pure alcohol available for consumption from alcoholic beverages in Australia in 2009–10. This was 1.9% more than the amount available for consumption in 2008–09 (182.7 million litres). This increase was comprised of increases from wine (up 4.3%), spirits (up 0.7%) and beer (up 0.8%). The amount of alcohol available for consumption from RTDs decreased by 1.9%. Overall, there were 10.4 litres of pure alcohol available for consumption per person aged 15 and over in 2009–10, the same as in 2008–09. This equates to around 2.3 standard drinks per person per day.

For more information, please visit the publication.

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Australian Social Trends, Jun 2011 (cat. no. 4102.0) - released 29/06/2011

Australian Social Trends is a quarterly publication which draws together a wide range of statistics, from the ABS and other official sources, to provide a picture of Australian society and how it is changing over time.

The June edition features the following articles:

- Overemployment
- Work and health
- Sport and physical recreation
- Culture and the arts
- Online @ home
- Children of the digital revolution

National and state indicators are also included, which show a range of statistics covering different social areas both at a national as well as state and territory level. Released in June were indicators in the areas of Population; Education and training; and Other areas of social concern.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Causes of Death, Australia, 2009 (cat. no. 3303.0) - released 03/05/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication presents statistics on the number of deaths for 2009 by sex, selected age groups, and cause of death classified to the World Health Organisation's International Classification of Diseases (ICD).

In 2009, there were 140,760 deaths registered in Australia, 3,186 (2.2%) less than in 2008 (143,946). The standardised death rate (SDR) decreased to 5.7 deaths per 1,000 standard population in 2009, down from 6.1 in 2008.

Since 2000, the leading underlying cause of death for all Australians was Ischaemic heart diseases (angina, blocked arteries of the heart and heart attacks). In 2009, it was the underlying cause of 16.0% (22,523) of all registered deaths in Australia, accounting for 16.7% of all male and 15.3% of all female registered deaths. In Victoria, Ischaemic heart

diseases also accounted for the leading underlying cause of death, with 5,681 (15.9%) registered deaths.

Across Australia, heart disease remains the leading cause of death amongst Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, accounting for 15.3% of all Indigenous deaths.

Nationally, deaths due to Dementia and Alzheimer's disease increased by 126.5% from 3,655 in 2000 to 8,277 in 2009. The continued increase in deaths from Dementia and Alzheimer's disease has seen this cause of death overtake Trachea and lung cancers as the third leading cause of death in Australia.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Disability, Australia, 2009 (cat. no. 4446.0) - released 02/05/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National

This publication contains summary disability information about three population groups:

- people with disabilities
- older people (those aged 60 and over)
- people who provide assistance to older people and people with disabilities

Almost one in five (19%) Australians, approximately 4.0 million people, had a disability in 2009. The main disabling conditions reported in 2009 were back problems and arthritis (16% and 15% of all persons with a disability respectively).

Just over half (52%) of people aged 60 and over had a disability. Most of these (63%) did not need any assistance to manage health conditions or cope with everyday activities. For those who did, the most commonly reported needs were help with property maintenance, household chores and mobility.

There were 2.6 million carers in Australia who provided some assistance to others who needed help because of disability or old age.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Disability, Vocation and Education Training, 2009 (cat. no. 4438.0) - released 03/06/2011: **First Issue**

Data available at the following geographic levels: National

In this publication, examination is made of the educational and vocational experiences of people with disabilities in Australia. The focus is on their participation in education, patterns of learning, levels of attainment and outcomes associated with educational experience. Examination was also be made of barriers that might inhibit their ability to capitalise on educational opportunity. For people with disability, failure to participate adequately in education can lead to a chain of events that ends in disassociation and poorer social and economic outcomes for the future.

The disparity between people with and without disability aged 25 to 44 became more apparent, at each lower level of qualification. So while 81% of people 25 to 44 with specific restrictions who had degrees were employed compared to 86% of those with no disability, for those whose highest educational attainment was Year 12, 55% of people with specific

restrictions were employed compared to 81% of people with no disability. People with disability whose highest attainment was lower than Year 12, only 37% were employed compared to 75% of those with no disability.

People with disability tended to leave formal education at a greater rate than people with no disability. For instance, 13% of people with specific restrictions did not complete their certificate courses, compared to 2% of those with no disability.

For further information, please visit the publication.

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Experimental Estimates of Preschool Education, Australia, 2010 (cat. no. 4240.0) - released 05/04/2011: **First Issue**

Data available at the following geographic level: State and territory

This new publication contains experimental estimates of episodes of enrolment and attendance at preschool program, together with counts of children enrolled and attending preschool programs in the year before full-time school in 2010 across Australia.

Due to the difference in collection reference periods used in some states and territories, only those using the same reference period can be presented together. Of note, Table 34 presents preschool episode data from all government funded providers though the 2010 Confirmed Kindergarten Funding Data Collection in Victoria. The collected data covered the vast majority of preschools in Victoria, irrespective of their management type and delivery setting.

The data was collected through the National Early Childhood Education and Care Collection (ECEC). Because of various issues in the initial iteration of this new collection, the estimates in this publication are labelled 'experimental'. For more information on the NP ECE and the collection please see the National Early Childhood Education and Care Collection Manual (cat. no. 4240.0.55.001).

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Family Characteristics, Australia, 2009–10 (4442.0) - released 27/05/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication presents information about changing patterns of family and household composition in contemporary Australia, children's contact with their grandparents, child support arrangements for children who have a parent living elsewhere and the contact they have with that parent.

In 2009–10 nearly three-quarters (74%, or 6.2 million out of 8.4 million) of households in Australia were families such as couples, single parents and couples with children. Family households accounted for 19.2 million people, or 88% of the Australian population. The rest of the population either lived alone (9%) or group households (3%). The total proportion of lone person households hasn't changes significantly over the last 13 years. However, the number of lone women households has risen and the number of lone men households has fallen.

In Victoria, there were 2.1 million households in 2009–10 of which 74% (or 1.5 million households) were families. Family households accounted for 4.8 million people, or 88% of the Victorian population. The remaining 12% of the population either lived alone or in group households. Lone person households comprised 23% of Victorian households in 2009–10,

with 0.5 million people, or 9% of the Victorian population.

To find out more about, please visit the publication.

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Federal Defendants, Selected States and Territories, 2009–10 (cat. no. 4515.0) - released 28/04/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: Selected State and territory

This publication presents statistics about finalised defendants charged with federal offences, that were dealt with by the criminal jurisdiction of the Higher (Supreme and Intermediate), Magistrates' and Children's Courts of Australia, for 2009–10, for all states and territories, except Tasmania.

There were 13,000 people charged with at least one federal offence in the Magistrates' Courts; 800 in the Higher Courts; and 200 in the Children's Courts. Of the combined states and territories, New South Wales had the highest proportion of federal defendants (34%), followed by Victoria (22%) and Queensland (21%).

These 14,000 defendants represented a total of 49,009 federal offences finalised; an average of 3.5 offences per defendant. This was an increase from the 2.5 offences per defendant in 2008–09. More than a third (34%) of defendants had a principal federal offence of fraud, deception and related offences and a further 26% had a principal federal offence of offences against justice procedures, government security and government operations. There were 2,686 federal offences finalised in the Higher Courts; 45,979 in the Magistrates' Courts; and 344 in the Children's Courts.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Migrant Data Matrices, Jun 2011 (cat. no. 3415.0) - released 29/06/2011

The Migrant Data Matrices provide users with links to data on migrants from a range of ABS products. Data include a broad selection of demographic, geographic, socio-economic and survey specific items. The statistical coverage includes topics such as Population Characteristics, Labour (Employment), Family and Community, Health, Education and Training, Housing, Personal and Household Finances, Culture and Leisure and Crime and Justice. The data items included are not exhaustive but rather provide a selection of the data available from a collection. Each data cube includes a link to the main features and explanatory notes of the source product or collection.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Migration, Australia, 2009–10 (cat. no. 3412.0) - released 16/06/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication brings together statistics on international migration into and out of Australia, interstate migration within Australia and information on overseas-born residents of Australia. Australia's migration is described in the context of the Government's migration program and in comparison with international migration experienced by other countries.

Almost 6 million migrants, born in about 200 countries, live in Australia and 27% of Australia's resident population were born overseas, as at June 2010. People born in the United Kingdom continued to be the largest group of overseas-born residents, accounting for 1.2 million people. The next largest group was born in New Zealand with 544,000 people,

followed by China (380,000 people).

In 2009–10, net overseas migration (NOM) added 60,400 people to Victoria, accounting for 28% of Australia's NOM (216,000 people). Final data on NOM reveal that Victoria recorded the highest net gain of international students in 2008–09 (43,600 people), followed by New South Wales (40,400) and Queensland (18,300).

To find out more, including overseas migration broken down by age and sex, and country of birth estimated resident population, please visit the publication

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Overweight and Obesity in Adults in Australia: A Snapshot, 2007–08 (cat. no. 4842.0.55.001) - released 27/05/2011: **First Issue**

Data available at the following geographic levels: National

This publication discusses overweight and obesity of people aged 18 years and over in Australia in 2007–08, examining a range of factors which may influence a person's weight and some of the health consequences associated with excess weight.

One in four (24%) Australians aged 18 and over were obese in 2007–08 rising from one in five (19%) since 1995, with men gaining weight faster than women.

Rates of obesity were related to a number of environmental and socio-economic conditions:

- a third (33%) of Australian adults living in areas of most disadvantage were obese, almost double that of people in areas of least disadvantage (17%)
- people who had not completed Year 12 were more likely to be obese (31%) than those who had completed this level of education (19%)
- more adults in outer regional and remote Australia were obese (31%) than those in major cities (23%)

Of note, when 2007–08 data on overweight and obesity are combined, 61% of adult Australians were either overweight or obese. This rate was higher for men (68%) than women (55%), and higher for older people than younger people. For instance, three-quarters (75%) of people aged 65 to 74 were overweight or obese, compared with 37% of those aged 18 to 24.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Perinatal Deaths, Australia, 2009 (cat. no. 3304.0) - released 17/05/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication presents 2009's number of fetal, neonatal and total perinatal deaths classified to the World Health Organisation's International Classification of Diseases (ICD) by sex and cause of death.

Perinatal deaths comprise stillbirths (fetal deaths) and deaths of infants within the first 28 completed days of life (neonatal deaths). In 2009, there were 2,671 perinatal deaths registered in Australia, compared with 2,501 registered in 2008, an increase of 6.8%. This was 5.4% higher than the number registered in 2000 (2,534). In 2009, there were 636 perinatal deaths registered in Victoria, an increase of 12.2% from 2008.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

Perspectives on Sport, Jun 2011 (cat. no. 4156.0.55.001) - released 27/06/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National

Australia is a great sporting nation and there is often a high-level of interest in the community and media in participation rates and other aspects of sport and physical recreation. The National Centre for Culture and Recreation Statistics (NCCRS), through the 'Perspectives on Sport' series, aims to provide informed commentary on a range of topics relating to this area.

Articles in the latest edition include information about people's participation in non-playing roles, spectator attendance at sporting events and adults' and children's participation in tennis. A range of statistics relating to the kinds of facilities people use for physical recreation activities are also included.

In 2009–10, walking for exercise was the most popular physical recreation activity:

- 88% of those who took part in walking for exercise used other outdoor facilities such as paths, parks, walking trails, and the beach
- the 22% who used their own or another home for walking could possibly be using equipment, such as a treadmill for exercise
- 29% of people who walked for exercise were doing so in a structured facility such as a fitness centre or a gym, which could imply that people use gym equipment, such as a treadmill, for walking

For more information about these and other sports and physical recreation activities, please visit the publication.

Private Hospitals, Australia, 2009–10 (cat. no. 4390.0) - released 17/06/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and Territory

This publication presents statistics about the operation of private acute and psychiatric hospitals, and free-standing day hospital facilities in Australia. Information is included about facilities (beds available, special units), activities (patient throughput, days of hospitalisation provided, bed occupancy rates), patients (types of admitted patients, outpatients and operations performed), staffing and finances.

There were 581 private hospitals operating in Australia in 2009–10 compared with 564 in 2008–09, the net effect of an unchanged number of Acute and psychiatric hospitals and an increase of 17 Free-standing day hospitals. In Victoria, there were 78 Acute and psychiatric hospitals and 83 Free-standing day hospital facilities operating in 2009–10.

The number of available beds and chairs increased 2.1% from 27,180 in 2008–09 to 27,748 in 2009–10. The number of beds and chairs in Acute and psychiatric hospitals increased by 1.0% while those in Free-standing day hospitals increased by 13.1%. Total patient separations were 6.7% higher overall in 2009–10 (3.6 million) compared to 2008–09 (3.4 million).

Private hospitals provided 8.4 million days of hospitalisation to patients in 2009–10, up 3.7% on 2008-09 (8.1 million). Staff numbers (full-time equivalent) increased by 8.5% to 56,600 in 2009–10 compared to 2008–09 (52,100).

For further information, please visit the publication.

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Recorded Crime - Victims, Australia, 2010 (cat. no. 4510.0) - released 23/06/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication presents national crime statistics relating to victims of a selected range of offences that have been recorded by police. These statistics provide indicators of the level and nature of recorded crime victimisation in Australia. Users of this publication should note that not all crimes are reported to or recorded by police.

During 2010 there were 17,757 victims of sexual assault recorded by police, with 25% of these victims aged 10 to 14. The majority of all sexual assault victims were female (85%). Females (58%) were also more likely to be victims of kidnapping/abduction. Males were more likely to be victims of homicide and related offences (62%), robbery (65%) and blackmail/extortion (65%).

In Victoria in 2010 there were 94 victims of homicide. Victims of homicide knew their offender in 70% of cases, with 19% being victimised by a partner. There were 3,466 victims of sexual assault of whom 86% were female. Among victims of sexual assault, 24% were victimised by a family member.

There were 2,732 person victims of robbery in Victoria in 2010, with 77% of victims being male. Over 90% of robbery victims were victimised by either a stranger or an offender where the relationship could not be determined.

For further information, please visit the publication.

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Social Participation of People with a Disability, 2011 (cat. no. 4439.0) - released 22/06/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National

This article examines different aspects of social participation of people with disabilities. The data is drawn from the Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers 2009, the General Social Survey 2006 and the Time Use Survey 2006.

The vast majority of people with a disability had participated in social activities in their homes in the 3 months prior to interview. Of people with profound or severe disability, 94% reported having participated in at least one social activity, compared with 97% of people with less restrictive disabilities.

The majority of people with profound or severe disability felt they could confide in someone living outside their household, although they were more likely to nominate a family member they could rely on (83%) than friends (73%), compared to people with no disability, of whom 90% had nominated an ex-household family member and 90% nominated friends they could confide in.

People with profound or severe disability who are intellectually or psychologically impaired are less likely to report feeling safe at home alone at night (56% and 61% respectively), compared to 73% of people with a physical disability and 88% of people who do not have a disability.

The two venues most likely to have been frequented in the 12 months prior to interview were libraries and cinemas, although having a disability and the severity of the disability

decreased the likelihood of an individual attending these places. Cinema attendance was reported by 44% of people with profound or severe disability. For people with less restrictive disability, this rose to 61% and to 75% for people without a disability.

To find out more about various social participation of people with disability, please visit the publication.

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Sports and Physical Recreation: A Statistical Overview, Australia, 2011 (cat. no. 4156.0) - released 13/04/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication brings together information about sport and physical recreation in Australia from a variety of Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data sources and provides a statistical overview of sports and physical recreation in Australia. Topics covered include:

- output of the sports and physical recreation sector
- employment in sports and physical recreation
- government outlays on recreation
- international trade in sports and physical recreation goods
- spectator attendance at sporting events
- participation in sports and physical recreation activities

Some information from the publication was:

- 4.5 million (26%) people aged 15 and over participated in organised sport and physical recreation during the 12 months prior to interview in 2009–10
- There were 1.7 million children aged 5 to 14 (63%) who participated in organised sport outside of school hours during the 12 months ending April 2009
- Sport and physical recreation organisations attracted the largest number of volunteers with 1.7 million people (11% of the population)

To find out more information, please visit the publication.

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Information Paper: Disability, Ageing and Carers, Basic CURF, Australia, 2009 (cat. no. 4430.0.00.001) - released 02/05/2011

This publication provides information about the release of microdata relating to the 2009 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (SDAC) conducted throughout Australia during the period April to December 2009. These microdata are available in the form of a Basic Confidentialised Unit Record File (CURF).

This paper contains details of the basic unit record file available via CD-ROM or accessed through the Remote Access Data Laboratory (RADL) or the ABS Data Laboratory (ABSDL). It explains background information, data content, technical details and the conditions of use of the CURF and should be used as a reference document when interrogating the file. An Excel spreadsheet listing all the data items available on the Basic CURF, a copy of both the Household and Establishment questionnaires, and a set of Prompt Cards (related only to the Household component) accompanies this publication.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Microdata: Patient Experiences in Australia, Expanded CURF, Jul 2009 to Dec 2009

(cat. no. 4840.0) - released 22/06/2011: **First Issue**

This Expanded Confidentialised Unit Record File (CURF) provides detailed data relating to Patient Experience that was collected in the 2009–10 Multipurpose Household Survey.

It provides data on characteristics and experiences of both people that accessed health services, and those that did not. Information was given by people aged 15 years and over for a wide range of health services, including GPs, medical specialists and hospitals. Information on children's use of health services was also collected from households with children under 15.

The CURF enables users to tabulate, manipulate and analyse data to their individual specifications. Steps to confidentialise the data, including removing any information that might uniquely identify an individual, have been taken that ensures the confidentiality of respondents while at the same time maintaining the integrity of the data and optimising its content.

The Expanded CURF is accessible through the Remote Access Data Laboratory (RADL) or the ABS Data Laboratory (ABSDL).

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Technical Manual: Patient Experiences in Australia, Expanded CURF, Jul 2009 to Dec 2009 (cat. no. 4840.0.55.002) - released 22/06/2011

This Technical Manual provides information about the release of microdata relating to the Patient Experience, available in the form of an Expanded Confidentialised Unit Record File (CURF).

Microdata are the most detailed information available from a survey and are generally the answers to most individual questions or the data derived from answers to two or more questions.

An Expanded CURF provides the maximum level of detail possible when releasing unit record files, while at the same time maintaining the integrity of the data and the confidentiality of individual respondent information.

The CURF can be accessed through the Remote Access Data Laboratory (RADL) or the ABS Data Laboratory (ABSDL). For information on applying for access to ABS CURFs, see the CURF Microdata Entry Page on the ABS website.

This manual explains the data content, technical details and the conditions of use of the CURF and should be used as a reference document when interrogating the file. An Excel spreadsheet listing all the data items available on the CURF accompanies this manual.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Economic and Labour Statistics

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Australian Outward Finance and Insurance Foreign Affiliate Trade, 2009–10 (cat. no. 5485.0) - released 27/06/2011: **First Issue**

Data available at the following geographic levels: National

Provides details of the operations of foreign affiliates of Australian resident businesses in the finance and insurance sector, including the number of affiliates and their employment by country and by industry, and sales and purchases of services.

Foreign finance and insurance businesses affiliated with Australian resident businesses generated \$21 billion in gross value added in 2009–10. Australian resident businesses had 1,245 finance and insurance foreign affiliates that employed over 75,000 staff. Finance and insurance foreign affiliates recorded 92% of their sales revenue for finance and insurance services in the host country of the foreign affiliate. This indicates that the foreign affiliates were primarily established to service the markets where they resided. Foreign affiliates residing in New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States of America together accounted for more than 54% of all key measures of finance and insurance foreign affiliate trade activity, including:

- number of foreign affiliates
- employment and wages/salaries of foreign affiliates
- sales and purchases of services.

For more information, please visit the publication.

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Characteristics of Recent Migrants, Australia, Nov 2010 (cat. no. 6250.0) - released 24/05/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National

This publication presents information about the labour force status and other characteristics of 'recent migrants' and 'temporary residents'. For the purposes of this publication, recent migrants are defined as people who were born overseas, arrived in Australia after 2000, were aged 15 years and over on arrival, were not an Australian citizen or New Zealand citizen on arrival, do not hold New Zealand citizenship, and have permanent Australian

resident status.

Since 2001, approximately 1.4 million people aged 15 years or older on arrival have entered Australia – or around 8% of Australia's population aged 15 years and over. Of these, 51% were recent migrants and 34% were temporary residents.

In November 2010, two-thirds of recent migrants and temporary residents were employed (66% and 63% respectively). Recent migrants from main English-speaking countries were more likely to be employed than those born in other countries (81% compared with 64%). About 10% of recent migrants who have had a job in Australia had their first job arranged prior to arrival in Australia, while 43% spent three months or less looking for their first job.

About one-third (35%) of recent migrants reported experiencing difficulty finding their first job. The most common reason given for this was a lack of Australian work experiences or references (64%) followed by language difficulties (33%).

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership, Australia, Aug 2010 (cat. no. 6310.0) - released 06/05/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication presents information about:

- the distribution of weekly earnings of employees
- their entitlement to core employment benefits such as paid leave (paid holiday, paid sick, paid long service and paid maternity/paternity leave)
- superannuation contributions made by employer on behalf of employee
- trade union membership

In August 2010, there were 9.8 million employees (5.2 million males and 4.6 million females). Of these, 70% were full-time employees in their main job (84% of male employees and 54% of female employees).

The mean weekly earnings of employees in all jobs in August 2010 was \$1,035, an increase of \$40 since August 2009. Mean weekly earnings in all jobs for males was \$1,227 compared to \$819 for females. Mean weekly earnings for full-time workers were \$1,267 compared to \$468 for part-time workers.

The proportion of employees who were trade union members in their main job decreased from 20% in August 2009 to 18% (1.8 million employees) in August 2010, a decrease of 47,300.

In August 2010, 90% of all employees had superannuation contributions paid into a superannuation scheme on their behalf by their employer.

In August 2010, there were 9.0 million employees excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises (4.7 million males and 4.4 million females). Of these, 2.2 million (24%) did not have paid leave entitlements in their main job (a proxy measure for casual employment), that is, they were not entitled to either paid sick leave or paid holiday leave in their main job (or did not know if they were entitled).

To find out more, please visit the publication.

Forms of Employment, Australia, Nov 2010 (cat. no. 6359.0) - released 29/04/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication presents information about the nature of employment arrangements in the Australian workforce. It also presents information about different types of employment which can be cross-classified by characteristics such as hours worked, industry and occupation, and demographic characteristics.

There were 1.1 million people who were independent contractors in their main job in November 2010. This represented 9.8% of all employed persons and was an increase from 1.0 million (9.6% of employed persons) in November 2009.

In November 2010, one in ten (10%) independent contractors worked seven days a week, compared with 4% of employees. Independent contractors were more likely than employees to work both weekdays and weekends (39% of independent contractors compared with 30% of employees).

Independent contractors worked longer hours than employees: almost a quarter (24%) worked 49 or more hours a week (compared with 12% of employees). They were also more likely to be on call or stand-by than employees (36% compared with 23%). Independent contractors were twice as likely as employees to have their hours vary each week (46% compared with 23%).

To find out more, please visit the publication.

Government Finance Statistics, Australia, 2009–10 (cat. no. 5512.0) - released 20/04/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication presents Government Finance Statistics (GFS) on an accrual accounting basis for each jurisdiction for the general government sector, the non-financial public sector and the total public sector. Three key statements are presented; the operating statement, the cash flow statement, and the balance sheet.

Total General Government expenses for all levels of government were \$460 billion in 2009–10. The major contributors were expenditure on Social security and welfare (26%), Health (19%) and Education (16%).

State government net worth in Victoria increased 1.0% from 2008–09 to \$119 billion in 2009–10. Total state government expenses in Victoria in 2009–10 were \$44 billion, with the major factors being Education (27%), Health (26%), and Transport and Communication (10%).

Total local government expenses in Victoria were \$5.9 billion in 2009–10. Major factors were expenditure on Housing and community amenities (21%), Transport and communications (19%) and Recreation and culture (18%).

To find out more about accrual operating results, cash operation results and balance sheet results, please visit the publication.

Government Finance Statistics, Education, Australia, 2009–10 (cat. no. 5518.0.55.001) - released 12/04/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National

This release contains statistics on expenditure on education by the general government sector for the period 2000–01 to 2009–10. These data are presented on an accrual accounting basis and are taken from the system of Government Finance Statistics (GFS). Government expenditure on education refers to expenditure on all levels of education, such as pre-school, primary, secondary, university, and technical and further education (TAFE), by the general government sector. It excludes expenditure on courses provided by non-educational institutions, such as the vocational training programs of private businesses.

Expenditure on education by all levels of general government in Australia increased by \$9.1 billion (15%), from \$62 billion in 2008–09 to \$71 billion in 2009–10. Total expenditure on education by the Commonwealth Government reached \$36 billion with expenditure by state and local governments totalling \$49 billion. Of the total operating expenditure on education in 2009–10, \$39 billion was spent on primary and secondary education and \$24 billion on tertiary education (universities and TAFEs).

Employee expenses of \$35 billion accounted for 49% of total educational expenses with the remaining 51% being on non-employee expenses (\$16 billion), depreciation (\$2.7 billion), and transfer expenses (\$18 billion).

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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International Investment Position, Australia: Supplementary Statistics, Calendar Year, 2010 (cat. no. 5352.0) - released 03/05/2011

This publication provides comprehensive foreign investment country statistics to supplement the quarterly publication Balance of Payments and International Investment Position, Australia (cat. no. 5302.0). For foreign investment in Australia, it includes details on country of investor, investment stocks, flows and associated income. For Australian investment abroad similar detail is provided in respect of country of investment.

Australia's net international investment position at 31 December 2010 was \$782 billion, an increase of \$7.2 billion on the previous year. The level of foreign investment in Australia increased by \$61 billion to reach \$1,968 billion. The leading investor countries at 31 December 2010 were:

- United States of America (\$550 billion or 28%)
- United Kingdom (\$473 billion or 24%)
- Japan (\$118 billion or 6%)

In addition, the level of borrowing raised on international capital markets (e.g. Eurobonds) was \$63 billion or 3%.

To find out more, including information about level of Australian investment abroad, financial account transactions, and income debits and credits, please visit the publication.

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International Trade in Services by Country, by State and by Detailed Services Category, Calendar Year, 2010 (cat. no. 5368.0.55.004) - released 19/05/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication contains trade in services credits and debits data in spreadsheets for:

country and country groups by calendar years; calendar years by country and country groups; state by calendar years; calendar years by state; detailed travel service by calendar years by country and country groups; and education related travel credits by calendar years by educational sector by type of expenditure.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Labour Force Characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, Estimates from the Labour Force Survey, 2010 (cat. no. 6287.0) - released 29/06/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory; Remoteness Area

This publication presents information about the labour force characteristics, by sex and age, of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

In 2010, 202,700 Indigenous people were in the labour force (i.e. either employed or unemployed), with males accounting for 55%. The labour force participation rate for Indigenous males (62%) was significantly higher than for Indigenous females (50%). There were 166,100 Indigenous people aged 15 and over employed.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Labour Statistics in Brief, Australia, 2011 (cat. no. 6104.0) - released 30/05/2011

This publication presents a range of summary statistics with the emphasis on simple tabular and graphical presentations. Most of the ABS labour collections are covered, including the Labour Force Survey, the range of employer surveys and the industrial disputes collection. Australian data are compared with those of the major Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) member countries.

Comparisons of data over a 20 year period are given for labour force participation, employment and unemployment, underemployment, hours worked, industrial disputes, wages and prices and job vacancies. Also included are recent data on labour force underutilisation, earnings, education and work, people not in the labour force, methods of setting pay and an international comparison of population and unemployment rates.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Taxation Revenue, Australia, 2009–10 (cat. no. 5506.0) - released 12/04/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication contains statistics of taxation revenue collected by all levels of government in Australia for the periods 2000–01 to 2009–10. The taxation revenue statistics presented are for the general government sector and include taxes received from public corporations (i.e. government owned/controlled corporations). This publication contains an Appendix on adjusted measures of government revenue, which provides analytical measures designed to facilitate an understanding of the level of government at which revenue is used rather than collected.

In 2009–10, taxation per capita was \$15,000, a decrease of 4% from 2008–09. The Commonwealth Government taxation per capita fell 6% from \$12,800 in 2008–09 to \$12,100 in 2009–10. The taxation per capita for state and local governments combined in 2009–10 was \$3,000, an increase of 5% from \$2,800 in 2008–09. All states recorded an increase in

taxation per capita. In Victoria during 2009–10, combined state and local government taxation per capita averaged \$3,100.

To find out more about taxation revenue, please visit the publication.

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Information Paper: Proposed Changes to Statistical Codes in the HTISC, 2012 (cat. no. 5368.0.55.016) - released 13/05/2011

This information paper presents a draft of proposed changes to Merchandise trade import statistics that will apply from 1 January 2012. These changes are the result of an update to the international Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS), and a review of statistical codes.

As a result of these updates it is necessary to change the Combined Australian Customs Tariff Nomenclature and Statistical Classification (the Customs Tariff). This information paper provides a brief background to these changes but focuses on the impact on the statistical code extensions.

This paper presents details from the Customs Tariff for information to help clients understand the proposed changes to statistical codes. The Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (Customs and Border Protection) will produce the 2012 Customs Tariff later in the year.

To find out more about the information paper, please visit the publication.

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Energy Account, Australia, 2008–09 (cat. no. 4604.0) - released 29/05/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National

This publication presents estimates of supply and use of energy products in Australia. It also provides a time series of energy efficiency measures related to Australian industry and guide to interpret these measures.

Australia's total energy use increased by 3,479 PJ (or 19%) over the period 2001–02 to 2008–09. The export market was the single largest consumer of Australian energy products, growing by 29% between 2001–02 and 2008–09. In contrast, total domestic use of energy products showed a relatively small increase from 7,852 PJ to 8,207 PJ (or 5%) over the same seven year period.

Consumption of energy by households accounted for 12% of the total domestic energy consumption in Australia during 2008–09. While the overall contribution of households to energy production was under 1% in 2008–09, household energy production from solar quadrupled from 2 PJ in 2005–06 to 8 PJ in 2008–09.

To find out more about supply of energy, use of energy and energy intensity, please visit the publication.

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Land Management and Farming in Australia, 2009–10 (cat. no. 4627.0) - released 21/06/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory; National Resource Management

This publication presents information on agricultural land management practices.

Key findings in the publication include:

- In 2009–10, approximately 52% of Australia's total land area was managed by agricultural businesses.
- In 2009–10, approximately 60,000 agricultural businesses prepared land for crops or horticulture covering 25.1 million hectares.
- Grazing land accounted for 88% of land managed by agricultural businesses. Almost half (48%) of all agricultural businesses in Australia were engaged in cropping activities and 17% were engaged in horticulture.
- Of those businesses that have natural environments on their property, over half protected these areas for conservation purposes.
- The main crop residue management practice was to leave stubble intact (48% of all agricultural businesses), ploughing crop residue into the soil (34%) and removal of crop residue by baling or heavy grazing (23%).
- A large proportion (61%) of agricultural businesses in Australia applied fertiliser to their holding in 2009–10. The average application rates for manufactured fertilisers ranged between 0.08 and 0.21 tonnes per hectare. The application rate for animal manure was 2.73 tonnes per hectare down from 3.19 tonnes per hectare in 2007–08.

For further information, please visit the publication.

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Water Use on Australian Farms, 2009–10 (cat. no. 4618.0) - released 11/05/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory, Statistical Division (SD), Natural Resource Management (NRM) region and Murray-Darling Basin (MDB)

This publication presents estimates of agricultural water use (including pastures and crops irrigated), irrigation water sources, irrigation methods, irrigation water management and irrigation expenditure and assets.

Australia's total agricultural water use in 2009–10 rose slightly by 1% to 7,359 gigalitres.

The amount of irrigation water used by Australia's 41,000 irrigating agricultural businesses increased slightly by 1% to 6,596 gigalitres in 2009–10. Notably, Victoria increased its water used for irrigation by 26% to 1,505 gigalitres in 2009–10.

Of the states and territories, Victoria and New South Wales had the greatest number of irrigating agricultural businesses in 2009–10, accounting for 51% of all of Australia's irrigating businesses.

In 2009-10, almost a quarter (24%) of all agricultural land in Australia is located in the Murray-Darling Basin (MDB). In 2009–10 the MDB accounted for 37% of Australia's irrigating agricultural businesses, 53% of all irrigated agricultural land and 54% of irrigation water applied.

New South Wales MDB's volumes of irrigation water applied in 2009–10 increased by 5%. Victoria MDB was up by 31%, reflecting the large increase of agricultural water use in that state. Queensland MDB (down by 38%) and South Australia MDB (down by 3%) showed decreases in the volume of irrigation water applied.

In Victoria, the main use of irrigation water was pasture for grazing (798 gegalitres), using over half (53%) of all irrigation water used in the state. Other major irrigation water uses were fruit trees, nut trees, plantation or berry fruits (260 gegalitres), and grapevines (155 gegalitres).

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Agricultural Commodities, Australia, 2009-10 (cat. no. 7121.0) - released 11/04/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory; Natural Resource Management region; Statistical Division

This publication includes statistics on land use, industry activity, crop and horticultural area and production, and livestock numbers.

Production of wheat, and lupins increased when compared to 2008–09 in Australia. Cotton lint and rice production continued to improve, though rice production remains at historically low levels. Sorghum production fell to 1.5 million tonnes, due mainly to a 35% decrease in area planted. Meat cattle numbers fell to 24 million from 2008–09 and dairy cattle numbers have continued their decline since industry deregulation, falling to 2.5 million head.

Production of wheat decreased in all states, except Victoria, up by 71% to 3.0 million tonnes and in South Australia, up by 68% to 4.0 million tonnes. Production of barley decreased in all states, except Victoria, up by 28% to 1.9 million tonnes and South Australia, up by 10% to 2.1 million tonnes. Victoria also increased oat production up by 27% to 300,000 tonnes in 2009–10.

Despite most states reporting a decrease in production, onion production in Victoria rose by 26% in 2009–10 to 24,000 tonnes.

Further data from the 2009-10 Agricultural Survey collection was released in Water Use on Australian Farms (cat. no. 4618.0) in May 2011, Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced (cat. no. 7503.0) in May 2011 and Land Management and Farming in Australia (cat. no. 4627.0) in June 2011.

For further information about various agricultural commodities, please visit the publication

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Australian Industry, 2009-10 (cat. no. 8155.0) - released 27/05/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication presents estimates of the economic and financial performance of Australian industry for 2009–10. For most industry divisions and subdivisions, estimates at a national level are presented of: income; expenses; industry value added; operating profit before tax; capital expenditure; and selected components of these aggregates and derivations. State/territory estimates of income, employment, and wages and salaries, at the division level are also included.

Twelve of the 18 industry divisions that comprise the Total selected industries recorded increases in total income. Rental, Hiring and real estate services recorded the largest percentage increase (12%), and Construction recorded the largest absolute increase (\$16 billion). Mining recorded the largest percentage decrease (8.3%), and Manufacturing recorded the largest absolute decrease (\$26 billion). For total selected industries in Australia, total income in 2009–10 was \$2.6 trillion. The percentage contribution by small businesses was 33%, medium businesses 24% and large businesses 42%.

In Victoria at the end June 2010, Retail trade was the industry employing the highest number of people (337,000). Health care and social assistance (private) had the largest annual increase in employment from June 2009, with an extra 24,000 people employed. Manufacturing industry had the largest numeric decrease in employment, down 7,000 to 278,000 at end June 2010. Agriculture, forestry and fishing had the largest proportional decrease (4.7%) in employment, down to 102,000 people.

For 2009–10 in Victoria, Wholesale trade was the industry with the highest sales and service income (\$107 billion). Construction industry recorded the largest proportional increase (14%) and absolute increase (\$7.9 billion) in sales and service income from 2008–09. Mining industry recorded the largest proportional decrease from 2008–09, down 31% to \$7.0 billion; while Manufacturing industry recorded the largest absolute decrease, down \$5.6 billion to \$103 billion.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Summary of IT Use and Innovation in Australian Business, 2009-10 (cat. no. 8166.0) - released 23/06/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National

This release presents key indicators on the incidence of use of information technology and innovation in Australian business.

Just under \$143 billion dollars worth of internet orders were received by Australian businesses in 2009–10, up 15% on the previous year. Wholesale trade and manufacturing industries continued their lead as the main businesses receiving online orders, both at over 40%.

Nearly all (94%) of Australia's large businesses had a web presence at 30 June 2010, while micro businesses (employing up to four people) are still the least likely to, with only about one-third offering some form of web presence. Broadband dominated as the internet access method (97%), with little variation between industries. Primary industry—agriculture, forestry and fishing—was least likely to place online orders, with just over one-quarter (26%) using the internet to make purchases.

Undertaking some form of innovation—developing or introducing new or significantly improved goods, services, processes or methods—was reported by 44% of Australian businesses in 2009–10. Large businesses were more than twice as likely to undertake innovative activity than micro businesses (74% compared to 36%). Wholesale trade was the most innovative, with almost 60% of businesses in the industry reporting some form of innovation. Innovation in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry was reported by about one-third of those businesses.

More detailed and final estimates will be released in the Business Use of Information Technology (cat. no. 8129.0) on 25 August 2011 and the Selected Characteristics of Australian Business (cat. no. 8167.0) on 15 September 2011.

For further information about various datasets, please visit the publication.

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Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia, 2009-10 (cat. no. 7503.0) - released 31/05/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory; Natural Resource Management region; Statistical Division

This publication contains gross and local values of production of major agricultural commodities for 2009–10.

In 2009–10 the gross value of total Australian agricultural production was \$40 billion, a decrease of 5% (or \$2.2 billion) from 2008–09. The value of crops fell by 7% to \$21 billion in 2009–10, with livestock products decreasing by 8% to \$5.7 billion, driven mainly by a fall in the value of whole milk. Livestock slaughterings and other disposals fell by 1% to \$13 billion, with decreases in the value of cattle and calves, and poultry offsetting the increases in value of sheep and lambs, pigs and goats. Marketing costs accounted for \$3.0 billion (or 8%) of the total gross value of agricultural production in 2009–10.

For more information, please visit the publication.

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Waste Management Services, Australia, 2009-10 (cat. no. 8698.0) - released 14/06/2011

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State and territory

This publication presents the financial performance of businesses and components of

general government sector organisations involved in waste management services covering the 2009–10 financial year. This is the third ABS survey of waste management services with previous collections covering 2002–03 and 1996–97.

Waste management services in Australia recovered or reprocessed a total of 13 million tonnes of material from waste in 2009–10. Nationally, this represents a rate of waste diversion from landfill of 43%. Almost 10 million tonnes of material were recovered at waste facilities other than landfill. This included 2.2 million tonnes of metal, 1.7 million tonnes of paper and cardboard, and 1.7 million tonnes of construction and demolition waste.

An estimated 2,120 private and public trading sector businesses and 547 general government sector organisations were involved in the Australian waste management services industry, employing a total of 32,700 people.

Waste management services businesses in the private and public trading sector had a total income of \$8.6 billion. Sales of recyclable material contributed another \$2.2 billion or 26% of total income.

In the private and public trading sector, 592 waste management services businesses had activity located in Victoria in June 2010, representing 28% of the total waste management services businesses in Australia. Victoria contributed \$472 million (18%) of total general government sector income related to waste management activity and \$389 million (18%) total expenditure related to waste management activity.

For more information, please visit the publication.

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General Releases

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GENERAL RELEASES

On this page:

Information Paper: Measures of Socioeconomic Status, New Issue for June 2011

Research Paper: Sampling-Based Clerical Review Methods in Probabilistic Linking, May 2011

Information Paper: Measures of Socioeconomic Status, New Issue for June 2011 (cat. no. 1244.0.55.001) - released 22/06/2011

Measurement of socioeconomic status can take place for individuals, families, households or a geographic area or community and deciding which measure to use is important and dependent on the proposed use. This paper raises the issues relating to the measurement of socioeconomic status, and discusses the different types of socioeconomic status indicators and the uses for which they can be applied.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Research Paper: Sampling-Based Clerical Review Methods in Probabilistic Linking, May 2011 (cat. no. 1351.0.55.034) - released 25/05/2011

Probabilistic data linking aims to link records that are believed to belong to the same person from two different data sets. Candidate record pairs are given a weight based on the degree of agreement between fields on the two records. Record pairs with a weight above some upper cut-off are declared links while those with a weight below some lower cut-off are declared non-links. However, there are many record pairs that cannot be automatically assigned a status and are designated for clerical review. Clerical review is a time-consuming and resource-intensive stage of the data linking process requiring careful visual inspection and keyboard use. Acceptance sampling is proposed to dramatically reduce the amount of clerical inspection. Sampling is also proposed as a method to provide an accurate and reliable means of assessing and setting the most appropriate clerical review bounds.

To find out more about the research paper, please visit the publication.

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Training Courses and Information Seminars

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TRAINING COURSES AND INFORMATION SEMINARS

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DETAILS OF TRAINING COURSES

Venue: ABS Victorian Office, Level 5 South Tower, 485 La Trobe Street, Melbourne.

Time: Full day courses generally run from 9:00am to 4:30pm.

What statistical training courses are available at ABS Victoria?

[Analysing Survey Data Made Simple](#)

[Introduction to Labour Statistics](#)

[Introduction to the Survey Process](#)

[Making Quality Informed Decisions](#)

[Principles of Questionnaire Design](#)

[Running Your Own Survey](#)

[Turning Data Into Information](#)

[Understanding Demographic Data](#)

[Using ABS Datacubes in SuperTABLE](#)

[Valuing Australia's Environment](#)

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Professional statistical development opportunities

The following courses will be available in the Victorian office for the remainder of the 2011

calendar year:

Understanding Demographic Data - 18 August (\$710)

This one day interactive workshop on demographic statistics provides an overview of demographic data, with information on sources, methods of collection and production, and quality issues. Practical exercises using tools for demographic analysis are included, covering contemporary social and economic issues, population dynamics such as population momentum and ageing, and individual components of population growth (births/fertility, deaths/mortality, migration).

Analysing Survey Data Made Simple - 30–31 August (\$990)

This two-day, computer-based course develops basic practical skills in statistical and graphical data analysis techniques using Microsoft Excel. It shows participants how to:

- identify the steps involved in data analysis
- summarise and display survey data in graphical and tabular form
- find simple relationships in survey data, and
- test for statistically significant differences between survey results.

Running Your Own Survey - 11–12 October (\$990)

The aim of this course is to give a broad overview of all facets of survey development. The course covers planning for a survey (including developing survey objectives), collection methods, errors in surveys, sample design and sample size, questionnaire development, data processing and reporting results, maintaining confidentiality, and managing the risks associated with surveys.

Principles of Questionnaire Design - 17–18 October (\$990)

A well-designed questionnaire is vital for collecting high quality data. The aim of this course is to provide participants with an awareness and understanding of questionnaire design principles. The course covers selecting collection methodologies, developing survey questions, designing questionnaire layout and testing the questionnaire.

Turning Data Into Information - 8–9 November (\$990)

This course aims to equip participants with a range of statistical tools and techniques to analyse data in the context of a research question or an issue. It also aims to enhance participants' understanding of data, its scope and limitations, the strengths and weaknesses of various analytical techniques in applying them to data to draw out the story. Statistical writing is covered to a limited extent.

Making Quality Informed Decisions - 15 November (\$710)

This course is intended to assist people to make effective use of a Data Quality Framework (DQF) to understand in a systematic way the level of quality associated with a dataset. It focuses on the use of the DQF in framing a data need, evaluating existing datasets and hence identifying the limitations of those data sources. It will also equip participants with the skills to apply that understanding when making a decision by using appropriate risk management principles.

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FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on ABS statistical training go to the ABS website <www.abs.gov.au>. Select 'Services' then ABS Training. Course descriptions are available on the ABS Training: Course Profiles page, and registration forms can be downloaded from the ABS Training: Registration and Contacts page. Additional sessions may be scheduled according to demand.

For courses listed above, Esther Cramer (03 9615 7904) is ABS Victoria's training contact, or email queries/registrations to <victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au>.

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Points of Contact

The purpose of Victorian Statistics Advisory Forum is to act as the key collaborative forum for consultation between the Victorian Government and the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) with the aim of furthering the use of statistics and developing statistical capability across Victoria.

The Victorian Statistics Advisory Forum's objectives are to:

- strategically and collaboratively determine the statistical needs that support Victorian whole-of-government policy priorities to provide clear direction to the broader ABS and the State and Territory Statistical Services forward work program;
- promote the value and effective use of quality statistical information and infrastructure to support evidence based policy decisions; and
- encourage dialogue within and across State Government agencies to develop and share information on statistical developments and to disseminate statistical best practice.

VSAF meets quarterly each year. The next meeting is 8 September 2011. The following people are current departmental representatives to the forum:

VSAF Chair

Mary Cavar

Department of Treasury and Finance

Peter Froutzis

Department of Premier and Cabinet

Michael Krien

Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development

Daniela Sekirski

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

Dr Sara Glover

Department of Health

Dr Connie Spinoso

Department of Human Services

Nigel Brand

Department of Justice

Dr Marion Frere

Department of Transport

Philip Norman

Department of Planning and Community Development

Dr Tim Patton

Department of Sustainability and Environment

Elizabeth Thomas

Department of Primary Industries

Vanessa Adams

Australian Bureau of Statistics

Lane Masterton

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